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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/698,441	10/30/2000	Hiroshi Kishi	107427	6528

25944 7590 07/07/2003

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. BOX 19928
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320

EXAMINER

ABDULSELAM, ABBAS I

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2674

DATE MAILED: 07/07/2003

11

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/698,441

Applicant(s)

KISHI ET AL.

Examiner

Abbas I Abdulsalam

Art Unit

2674

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 April 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). 9.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____. 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 2674

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morioka et al. (USPN 5850076) in view of Burrell (USPN 6411502) and Stas et al. (USPN 6025869).

Regarding claims 1, 4, 8, and 15-20, Morioka teaches an input device (2) including a transparent switch (10) which is arranged over the display surface of the display device (1). Morioka teaches the use of guidance message on the screen of the display device enabling the user to input or select information according to the guidance for the purpose of executing the desired transaction. See col. 6, lines 2-9 and col. 1, lines 25-35. Morioka teaches a selection processor (7) performing a predetermined process based on the information selectively input by the user through a display device (1) and the selection input unit (5). Furthermore, Morioka teaches a selection procedure in terms of predetermined period of time. See col. 6, lines 18-21, Fig 1, and col. 11, lines 13-23.

However, Morioka does not disclose an "operation nullification device" preventing the predetermined operation from being inputted, and "operation nullification canceller" canceling the prevention upon the completion of a predetermined time limit. Stas on the other hand teaches an

Art Unit: 2674

apparatus to selectably specify the hours and the video viewing that are permitted or blocked from viewing. See col. 2, lines 7-19. For example, Stas teaches performing user preprogrammed requests (518), and if a user requests that a viewing is to be blocked, the reception of the composite input signal is interrupted and a default image is displayed on monitor (20A). Stas also teaches if a user requests that a specified showing is to be shown at a specified time, the receiver (20) is provided the video signal of the selected showing at a specified time during which the main controller unit (10) ignores any request entered for changing the show. Stas further illustrates that the main control unit (10) permits viewing only during specified times on the specified routes and within the time limit previously programmed. See col. 8, lines 14-27 See col. 7, lines 65-67, col. 8, lines 1-10, Fig. 1, Fig. 5 (518, 520, 522), and Fig 6a.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made modify Morioka's display device to include Stas's main control unit (10). One would have been motivated in view of the suggestion in Stas that the main control unit (10) is functionally equivalent to the desired operation nullification device and operation nullification canceler. The use of the main control unit (10) helps the desired image to be displayed on monitor 20A as taught by Stas.

Morioka has been described above. However, Morioka does not teach a scenario where the apparatus is installed and used in a vehicle. Burrell on the other hand teaches a portable device (2) installed inside a vehicle. See Fig 6 and col. 6, lines 50-62.

Art Unit: 2674

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize Morioka's transaction apparatus in Burrelle's electronic device system mounted in a car. Because both reference teach a display device coupled with an inputting mechanism and one of ordinary skill in the art would have looked toward Burrell for the manner in which the device is mounted.

With respect to claims, 4, 16 and 19, in addition to what has been described, Stats teaches a set-up button (Fig 6a, block 612) being pressed on the control unit (10) that will result in the display of a configuration set-up menu (Fig 6a block 614), in the middle of the programming screen displayed on the television monitor (20A). See col. 9, lines 18-28 and Fig 6b. Therefore, it would have been obvious Stats' control unit (10) can be equivalently used as the desired "screen controller", which that causes the display device to display information including dummy switches.

With respect to claims 8, 17 and 20, in addition to what has been described, Stas teaches a programming matrix pattern which appears on monitor 20A of TV receiver (20). Stas teaches that time is displayed in half hour steps along X axis at the top of the screen, while channel numbers are displayed in along the Y axis at the left most column on the screen (col. 9, lines 4045 and Fig.7). For example, Stats discloses cell (28) blocks channel 5 for a period 9:30-10PM and cell 30 (green) allows channel (7) for the time period 10:00-10:30 PM. Therefore, It would have been obvious that Stas' programming matrix pattern can be used to obtain the desired "summation time period"

Art Unit: 2674

Regarding claim 2, Morioka teaches a selection requesting unit (6) and selection processor (7) which performs a predetermined process based on information, selectively input by the user.

See col. 3, lines 1-7.

Regarding claims 3, 7 and 14, Morioka teaches a shifting of the selection target, aborting of a given operation as well as initiating a new operation. See col. 11, lines 4-12.

Regarding claims 5-6 and 9-13, Morioka teaches the shifting mode in terms of button, B1 which is operated before a predetermined time passes. See col. 11, lines 13-23.

Art Unit: 2674

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered to applicant's disclosure.

The following arts are cited for further reference.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,164,780 to Noto et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,163,336 to Richards

Art Unit: 2674

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to **Abbas Abdulsalam** whose telephone number is **(703) 305-8591**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday (9:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Richard Hjerpe**, can be reached at **(703) 305-4709**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of patents and Trademarks

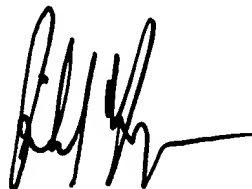
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314

Hand delivered responses should be brought to crustal park II, Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology center 2600 customer Service office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



Abbas Abdulsalam

Examiner

Art Unit 2674